



**CHESTER-LE-STREET
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
6, RED ROSE TERRACE,
CHESTER-LE-STREET



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1963

J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

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MEMBERS OF HEALTH AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE, 1963

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CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
6, RED ROSE TERRACE,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

To the Chairman and Members of the Chester-le-Street Rural District Council.

16th November, 1964.

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1963.

The statistics show a slight fall in the Birth Rate and an increase in the Death Rate as compared with 1962. The Infant Mortality Rate showed a slight increase. With regard to Tuberculosis, there were fewer new cases notified than for 1962. The big increase in total notifications of infectious diseases was mainly due to Measles cases.

Environmental improvements are indicated by the housing figures: 146 new houses built by the Council, 66 houses condemned as unfit for human habitation, and 120 families rehoused from condemned property. Improvement Grants were given by the Council to enable 154 houses to be provided with essential amenities.

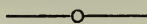
Routine work by the Public Health Inspectors in the fields of food hygiene, control of pests, elimination of nuisances, etc., continued to help in protecting the health of the public.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued help and support, and also the staff of the Department for their efforts and enthusiasm during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant

J. L. SIDDLE,
Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY**

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—(Joint Appointment with U.D.C.
and Durham C.C.)

J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS—

**CHARLES W. ROBSON, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I. and Certificate in
Meat Inspection of the R.S.I. (Southern Area).**

**ROBERT REID McDOUGALL—M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., R.P., Certifi-
cate for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.**

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—

**HUGH F. L. DAVIES—M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H., Certificate for the
Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.**

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—

ANTHONY WILLIS.

CLERICAL STAFF

OLIVE ROUGHLEY

VICTOR MOORE

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

			1931	1962	1963
Area (acres)	...	...	26,925	22,226	22,226
Population	...	...	52,991	41,980	43,090
Persons per Acre	...	...	1.97	1.89	1.90
Inhabited Houses	...	...	12,026	13,936	13,936
Rateable Value	...	...	£173,350	£456,886	£1,256,181
Penny Rate Product	...	...	£635	£1,697	£1,823

* Registrar General's mid-year estimate including members of the armed forces stationed in area.

The character of the Rural District continues to change as the time passes. Whilst there are still large areas of rural countryside, the increase of urban type development in other areas becomes of increasing importance. One of the centres which comes into the latter group is Birtley where industrial and residential growth continues at a rapid rate.

The road (A6127) from Chester-le-Street to Birtley is now almost continuously built up without any discernable line of demarkation to separate Chester-le-Street from Birtley.

Area

The area of the Rural District remains unchanged at 22,226 acres.

The density of the population for the year being 1.90 persons per acre.

TABLE 1

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1963.

Based on Registrar-General's Provisional Figures	Rate per 1,000 Home Population		Rate per 1,000 Total Births		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Home Population.								Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Registered)	
	Birth Rate	Still Births	All Causes	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	T.B. (All Forms)	Influenza	Coronary	Cancer of Lung	Total deaths under one year		
England and Wales	18.2	17.2	12.2	0.00	0.73	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.07	2.29	0.52	21.1		
Durham County	18.2	19.1	11.6	0.00	0.78	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.08	2.35	0.47	22.45		
Chester-le-Street R.D.	17.4	30.9	11.7	0.00	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.05	2.4	0.45	22.6		

VITAL STATISTICS

Population

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population for 1963 was 43,090.

The estimates for the past 10 years are given below:—

						<i>Reg. General's Est. population</i>
1954	...	...	...	...	...	41,110
1955	...	...	...	...	...	41,160
1956	...	...	...	...	...	41,160
1957	...	...	...	...	...	41,120
1958	...	...	...	...	...	41,240
1959	...	...	...	...	...	41,550
1960	...	...	...	...	...	41,890
1961	...	...	...	...	...	41,240
1962	...	...	...	...	...	41,980
1963	...	...	...	...	...	43,090

The figure given for the 1961 Census was 41,169.

Births

There was a slight fall in the Birth Rate as compared with 1962. Total live births were 763 for 1962 and 751 for 1963.

Live Births:—

Legitimate: 362 male, 356 female.	Total	718
Illegitimate: 11 male, 22 female	Total	33
	(4.39% of total births)	
	Total Births	751
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	... ..	17.4
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 population	... ..	17.1
Still birth (14 female, 10 male). Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	... ..	30.9

Deaths

TABLE 2

The number of deaths during 1963 was 502, compared with 450 for 1962. The crude death rate being 10.7 for 1962; 11.7 was the figure for 1963.

CAUSE OF DEATH	All ages		AGE IN YEARS.							75 and over
	M.	F.	5	25	35	45	55	65		
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	7	8	—	—	—	1	4	5	5	
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	15	5	—	—	—	5	8	3	4	
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	—	7	—	—	—	4	1	1	1	
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .	—	7	—	—	2	—	2	2	1	
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	27	20	—	—	4	7	12	13	11	
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	1	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	
Diabetes	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	
Vascular Lesion of Nervous System	34	39	—	—	—	4	7	27	35	
Coronary Disease, Angina ...	59	46	—	—	4	13	23	31	34	
Hypertension with Heart Disease	9	12	—	—	—	—	4	8	9	
Other Heart Disease	16	21	—	—	—	3	5	10	19	
Other Circulatory Disease ...	9	10	—	—	—	—	2	6	11	
Influenza	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Pneumonia	18	15	2	—	—	—	6	7	18	
Bronchitis	28	5	—	—	—	2	9	7	15	
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum	5	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Congenital Malformations ...	4	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	21	21	10	1	3	1	6	9	12	
Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	6	1	—	—	2	1	—	2	2	
All Other Accidents	1	2	1	—	1	—	4	—	—	
Suicide	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
Homicide and Operations of War	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Total All Causes ...	271	231	24	1	16	43	98	137	183	

TABLE 3

The following were the chief causes of death during the year.

	1962		1963	
	<i>No. of deaths</i>	<i>% of total deaths</i>	<i>No. of deaths</i>	<i>% of total deaths</i>
1 Diseases of heart and circulatory system ...	240	53.3	255	50.8
2. Cancer	87	19.3	89	17.7
3. Acute respiratory diseases	54	12.0	69	13.7
4 Violence (7 road traffic deaths, 6 other violent causes, 2 suic.de) ...	23	5.1	15	3.0
5. Tuberculosis (all forms) ..	2	0.44	3	0.6

Chief Causes of Death

In general the distribution of causes of death changed little as compared with 1962.

1. Diseases of heart and circulatory system continued to be the main cause of death, being responsible for just over half of all the deaths. Of these deaths, 105 were due to coronary disease, this being a slight fall compared with last year (119).

2. With regard to deaths from cancer, the figure of 89 is two more than for 1962. This figure is considerably lower than that of deaths from coronary artery disease. Cancer of the lung showed, as expected, a predominance of males, although not so marked as in previous year.

3. Tuberculosis continued to be of only minor importance as a cause of death, the number of deaths being three. Two of these deaths were of persons over 65 years of age. and one between the ages of 35 and 44 years—all were male.

4. Deaths from violence fell from 23 in 1962 to 15 in 1963. Two were suicides, seven motor vehicle accidents, and six due to other violent causes.

Infant Mortality

Deaths under one year of age numbered 17—the figure for 1962 was 16. The Infantile Mortality Rate was 22.6. The figure for England and Wales was 21.1 and for Durham County 22.5.

			Infant Mortality	Perinatal	Neonatal	Still birth
1953	...	...	30	37.8	20.1	22.4
1954	...	...	35	38.7	24.3	18.2
1955	...	...	51	35.3	26.0	16.1
1956	...	...	29	35.7	16.8	23.3
1957	...	...	38	52.8	27.2	30.8
1958	...	...	33	46.4	28.5	23.2
1959	...	...	37	53.7	25.5	31.9
1960	...	...	22	34.7	13.3	21.7
1961	...	...	23	33.9	13.1	27.0
1962	...	...	20.9	27.1	14.4	15.5
1963	...	...	22.6	49.0	18.6	30.9

Infant Mortality Rate for a district: The number of deaths in that district of infants under 1 year of age, calculated per 1,000 live births.

Still Birth Rate: The number of still births expressed per 1,000 total births (live and still births).

Neonatal Mortality Rate: The number of deaths in infants under 4 weeks of age, expressed per 1,000 live births.

Perinatal Mortality Rate: The combined still births and deaths in the first week of life, expressed as a rate per 1,000 total births (live and still births).

Infant Death Analysis

Of the 17 deaths of children under one year of age, 14 took place within one week of birth. Of these 14 deaths, 12 were due to either prematurity or congenital defects.

Only one death could, without further investigation, be looked upon as a preventable death.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(1) Laboratory Facilities

In June, 1956, the Public Health Laboratories were transferred to the New Institute of Pathology, which was built in the grounds of the General Hospital to house the hospital pathological laboratory, the Blood Transfusion Service, and the Public Health Laboratory. The Director is Dr. J. H. Hale.

(2) Local Health Authority Services

The Administrative County is divided up into twelve areas. Chester-le-Street Urban and Rural Districts forming No. 4 Area. For each area, a Health Sub-Committee has been appointed to exercise on behalf of the County Health Committee, certain functions relating to services under the National Health Services Act 1946.

All day-to-day administration of the County Service is carried out by County Headquarters. The Assistant County Medical Officer deputises for the County Medical Officer of Health at quarterly meetings of the Area Sub-Committee.

(a) Health Visitor Service

There are 5 Health Visitors employed by the County Council working in the Chester-le-Street Rural District. A survey of the work done by them is given below:—

Visits paid to:—

Maternity and Child Welfare	...	...	...	...	10921
Tuberculosis	...	..	...	..	327
School Work	...	...	...	...	1086
General Health	...	...	...	...	235
Mental Deficiency	...	...	...	...	403
Aged People	...	...	...	...	1828

Summary:—

Ineffective Visits	...	...	..	...	...	1687
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	16487
Number of effective visits	...	...	...	...	...	14800
Time (as days) spent on visits (Routine, other and ineffective)	...	...	...	...	...	702
Average daily number of effective visits per health visitor	...	...	...	...	...	21

*Clinics, etc., Work:—**Time (as days)*

	<i>Spent:</i>
(a) at Maternal and Child Welfare Centre	306
(b) at Chest Clinics and contact sessions	26
(c) at School Head to Head inspections	24
(d) at School Clinics	Nil
(e) at School Medical Inspections	2
(f) at Special Schools	4
(g) at Nursery Schools	5

(b) Clinics

In the rural district during the year the County Council had 3 clinics which were utilised in connection with local health authority services in the district. In some cases the clinics held in the Urban District are more convenient for certain of the rural district inhabitants so that these have been included in the table show.

Address of Centre	Sessions
Hexham Villa, Birtley. Telephone No. 52.	Child Welfare ... Fridays weekly. Birth Control ... Alternate Monday after- Post-Natal and noons. Ante-Natal ... Vaccination and Immunisation . Alternate Monday mornings Dental Clinic ... 1st and 3rd Friday after- noons 1.30 — 2.30. Ultra Violet Ray. Friday afternoons weekly
Mains Farm House, West Lane, Chester-le-Street. Telephone No. 3286.	Child Welfare ... Tuesdays weekly. Ante-Natal ... Alternate Wednesday mornings. Birth Control ... Alternate Wednesday Post-Natal afternoons. Ultra Violet Ray. Monday afternoons weekly. Health Visitor Clinics ... Alternate Thursdays. Health Education and Relaxation Classes ... Monday afternoon week'y.
Miners' Welfare Hall, West Pelton.	Health Visitor Alternate Wednesday Clinics ... mornings. Child Welfare .. Alternate Wednesdays
Old Relief Office, Front Street, Sacrison.	Child Welfare ... Alternate Wednesdays.

(c) Welfare Foods

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

National dried milk, orange juice, cod liver oil and vitamin tablets are distributed from centres in the area as shown.

<i>Address of Centre</i>	<i>Sessions</i>
Hexham Villa, Birtley. Tel. No. 52	Alternate Mondays and Fridays weekly, 10.0 a.m. to 12 noon and 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.
Old Relief Office, Front Street, Sacriston	Alternate Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1.30 to 3.30 p.m.
Miners' Welfare Hall, Perkinsville	Tuesday: 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Miners' Welfare Hall, West Pelton	Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Post Office, Great Lumley	Every day, 9.0 a.m. to 5.0 p.m.
Miners' Welfare Hall, Kibblesworth	3rd Wednesday every month : 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Chester-le-Street, Mains House, West Lane.	Tuesday & Friday all day
Church Hall, Fatfield	Alternate Wednesdays 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

(d) Domiciliary Midwifery & Home Nursing Services

The following statements give details of the work done and the staff employed:—

HOME NURSING

STAFF	NEW CASES					VISITS PAID					
5 District Nurses 4 District Nurse Midwives	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Others
	603	201	1	33	—	17045	6740	9	2551	18	538
	838					25901					
	†Patients over 65 years					387					
	¶Visits to Patients over 65 years					13722					
	†Patients under 5 years					35					
	¶Visits to patients under 5 years					267					
	¶Visits for injection Only (all ages)					11750					

MIDWIFERY

Staff	Midwifery Cases	Maternity Cases	Hospital Discharges
3 district midwives	263	25	184
4 district nurse midwives			

F. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

ANTE-NATALS				CHILDREN					
Centres.	No. on books		Attendances	No. on books			Attendances		
	Years of age			Years of age					
				0/1	1/2	2/5	0/1	1/2	2/5
Birtley	...	13	46	175	153	175	1615	349	242
Sacriston	...	1	1	78	95	130	816	180	217
West Pelton.		27	116	79	93	122	613	175	140

BIRTH CONTROL			POST NATAL		ULTRA-VIOLET RAY	
Centre.	No. on books		No. on books	Attendances	No. on books	Attendances
Birtley ...	70	195	1	1	23	199

(e) *Ambulance Service*

The Chester-le-Street Rural District is served principally by the ambulance depots situated at Osborne Road, Chester-le-Street. This depot has an establishment of 1 Depot Super, 11 Driver-attendants, and 5 vehicles. The depot operates from 8 a.m. — 8 p.m. Monday to Friday; 8 a.m. — 4 p.m. Saturday, and is closed on Sunday. The remainder of each 24 hours is now covered by vehicles from the Durham, New Herrington or Stanley depots. Overall control is exercised by a central control at Durham where, by a system of direct telephone lines and radio, close supervision is kept on vehicles operating in all parts of the county, thus enabling any area to be reinforced as necessary.

All requests for ambulance transport in the area are made to the central control at Durham, where a 24-hour service is maintained. Tel. No. Durham 3421.

The following table shows the work undertaken by the Chester-le-Street depot during the year, but it should be noted that these figures will include patients from areas other than the Rural District and that the conveyance of patients residing in the rural district is not restricted to the Chester-le-Street Depot, but may be undertaken by vehicles from other depots passing through the area.

No of Journeys	Patients carried		Total	Mileage
	Stretcher	Sitting		
5079	1836	18084	19920	104776

(f) *Domestic Help*

Domestic helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies.

Domestic Help cases during 1963:

Cases attended 1/1/63	...	...	...	...	250
New cases during year	...	...	...	...	76
Cases terminated	...	...	...	...	50
Cases attended on 21/12/63	...	...	...	...	276
Number of Home Helps employed 31/12/63	...	...	...	...	147

Number of cases provided during year:

(a) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	2
(c) Chronic sick (including aged and infirm)	...	...	...	...	290
(d) Others	...	...	...	...	34

(g) *Prevention of Illness Care and Aftercare*

Under this section of the National Health Service Act the Durham County Council supply nursing requisites on loan to those needing them. A fee is charged, the assessment of which depends on income and the type of article borrowed. All the articles are stored in Durham City and have to be brought out to the place where they are required.

(h) *School Health Service*

The School Health Service is run by the Durham County Council from the headquarters in Durham City.

The clinic for the bulk of Chester-le-Street Rural District school children is in Birtley. The clinic is open daily and is attended on Monday and Wednesday by a School Medical Officer.

Routine medical inspections of children are carried out in the schools by a School Medical Officer.

(3) Hospital Services

The population of the district is in the main dealt with by the Durham Group of Hospitals.

None of the hospitals is sited in the Rural District but the General Hospital and Infectious Diseases Hospital are in the adjoining Urban District of Chester-le-Street.

(4) Executive Council Service

The executive council for the County of Durham is responsible for the administration and general management of the Family Practitioner Services in the District.

The Practitioner Services include the Family Doctor Service, the Dental Service, the Eye Service, and the Pharmaceutical Service, all of which provide the patient with the individual medical attention that he needs.

(5) Health Education

The emphasis continued to be on the direct approach to the many members of the public who are met by the Health Department Staff.

Support was given by means of posters and leaflets to various national campaigns.

The booklet " Better Health " was distributed as in previous years.

Lectures were given on aspects of health to organisations, use being made of the film projector available from the County Council.

Hostel Accommodation (Part III) National Assistance Act, 1948.

This is provided by the County Council. There are no hostels in the Rural District, the nearest being in the adjoining Urban District of Chester-le-Street.

National Assistance Act 1948 (Amendment Act 1951)

In July it was found necessary to obtain an order to move an old person to the County Council Hostel at Barnard Castle. Such action is only taken where it is essential for the welfare of the person concerned—in this case a handicapped person of no fixed abode.

Meals on Wheels

The National Assistance Act 1948 (Amended Act 1962) increased the power of the district councils in helping the aged.

In order to develop a Meals on Wheels service to aged persons in the district who need such help, the Council agreed that necessary steps be taken to get such a service into existence.

Unfortunately the source of meals raised some difficulty. The school meals seemed to be the most obvious answer to the problem, and discussions were arranged with the County Council in order to come to some arrangement.

Luncheon Clubs

The Council expressed its aim to provide Luncheon Clubs for ambulant aged persons throughout the Rural District.

The preliminary steps were taken to start such a scheme, but no clubs were in being by the end of the year.

Accidents in the Home

During the year the question of preventative action in connection with Accidents in the Home was considered. It was decided that the Road Safety Committee should have its title changed to Accident Prevention Committee and deal with both road and home safety.

Other matters which received consideration during the year:—

1. Surgery facilities for General Practitioners.
2. Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies.
3. Caravan Sites.
4. Smoke from Railway Engines.
5. Warning System for Aged Persons Bungalows.
6. Intermediate Accommodation and Problem Families

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water

Water is supplied to the district by three water undertakings: Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co., Sunderland and South Shields and Durham County Water Board.

Regular sampling of the supplies by the Public Health Inspectors gave the following results:—

		Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Ministry of Health's recom- mendation	... ..	50 + %	80 + %	100%	0
Samples Durham County Water Board	... 32 (91%)	—	—	2 (97%)	1
Samples other undertakings	34 (97%)	—	—	—	1

In each case where a sample did not come into Class 1, any action necessary was taken, and in all cases subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory.

2. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

BIRTLEY.

The Rowletch Burn Improvement Scheme was completed during the year.

The Barley Mow Sewerage and Surface Water Drainage Scheme was also completed during the year.

With regard to the New Works, it is expected that the construction will start some time during 1965.

PLAWSWORTH.

The new works at Plawsworth were completed in 1963.

CHESTER-LE-STREET

Work on the extensions to the Chester-le-Street Urban District Sewage Works, which is a joint scheme with the Rural District, continued during 1963, and are expected to be completed in 1964.

3. Public Cleansing

This service has continued satisfactorily during 1963.

Information under paragraphs 2 and 3 have been supplied by the Surveyor.

4. Inspection of the Area by Public Health Inspectors

Again nuisances under the Public Health Act have been largely abated by persuasion, it being necessary to serve five formal notices; 60 informal notices were served.

5. Petroleum Consolidated Act, 1928

The Public Health Inspectors are the responsible figures in connection with this Act.

Forty-seven licences were issued during the year for the storage of 98,260 gallons of petrol. One licence was issued for the storage of 1,470 tons of calcium carbide, three licences were granted for the storage of 720 gallons of rubber solvent.

TABLE 5

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

General Summary

	Number of Inspections	Number of Informal Notices Served	Number of Statutory Notices Served	Defects remedied after Notice	Legal Proceedings & General Remarks
Housing:—					
Public Health & Housing Acts ...	1287	60	5	274	
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences:					
Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	
Defective ...	25	18	—	18	
Drainage ...	1463	4	—	4	
Water Supply ...	180	—	—	—	
Food Premises ...	291	—	—	—	
Shops Act (Sect. 10) ...	409	—	—	—	
Dairies ...	82	—	—	—	
Slaughter Houses:—					
Public ...	—	—	—	—	
Private ...	90	—	—	—	
Tents, Vans, etc. ...	200	—	—	—	
Offensive Trades ...	73	—	—	—	
Factories & Workplaces	492	—	—	—	
Keeping of Animals ...	80	—	—	—	
Insanitary Ashpits & Receptacles ...	48	—	—	—	
Offensive accumulations	8	—	—	—	
Smoke Nuisances ...	103	—	—	—	
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ...	636	—	—	—	
Food Hygiene Regs. ...	783	—	—	—	
Improvement Grants ...	400	—	—	—	
TOTALS ..	6650	82	5	296	

TABLE 6

Summary of Works carried out

Defective ceilings	...	...	...	8
„ Pointing	...	...	...	8
„ Brickwork	..	...	...	12
„ Main house roof	...	...	...	11
„ Fireplaces	...	...	...	17
„ Chimney	...	...	...	8
„ Window frames	...	...	...	1
„ Sinks	...	...	...	6
„ Floors	...	...	...	9
„ Slates	..	...	...	5
„ Spouting	..	...	...	17
„ Windows	...	...	...	11
„ W.C.	...	...	...	13
„ Burst pipes	...	...	...	8
„ Floor boards	...	...	...	1
„ Wallplaster	..	...	...	19
„ Outhouse roofs	...	...	...	6
„ Ash-closets	...	...	...	1
„ Threshwood	...	...	...	1
„ Doors	...	...	...	9
„ Drains	...	...	...	5
„ Hot water systems	...	...	...	1
„ Yards	...	...	...	6
„ Flashing	...	...	...	1
„ Handrail	..	...	...	1
„ Rainwater pipes	...	...	...	2
„ Stone steps	..	...	...	1
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	1
Dampness	...	...	...	34

TABLE 7

6. Rats & Mice (Prevention and Damage by Pests Act, 1949)

	<i>Local Auth'ty</i>	<i>Dwell.ing Houses (inc. Council Houses)</i>	<i>All Other (inc. B'ness P'mses)</i>	<i>Total of Cols. (1) & (3)</i>	<i>Agri- cul- tural</i>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I.					
Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	105	13,936	1,102	15,143	176
II.					
Number of properties inspected as a result of notification ...	—	216	21	237	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by—					
Common rat:					
Major	—	1	1	2	—
Minor	—	140	14	154	—
House mouse—Minor ...	—	77	11	88	—
III.					
Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act ...	30	—	—	30	22
Number of such properties found to be infested by—					
Common rat:					
Major	8	—	—	8	—
Minor	18	—	—	18	22
House mouse—Minor ...	4	—	—	4	—
IV.					
Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections ...	111	470	55	636	46
V.					
Number of infested properties (in above sections) ...	30	216	21	267	22
VI.					
Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments ...	24	205	21	250	22

The general condition of the area is reasonably satisfactory. Leaflets illustrating methods for householders, and detailing the provisions of the Act, together with the Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks Regulations, 1950, are available from the Health Department.

7. Swimming Baths and Pools

There are two Public Swimming Baths in the District—Lambton Baths and Birtley—the latter being uncovered.

Both use mains water and have filtration and chlorination plants.

Of 15 samples taken at the baths only two did not reach the required standard, and in both cases a follow-up sample was satisfactory.

8. Disinfestation, Eradication of Bed Bugs, Flies, etc.

56 cases were dealt with during the year.

9. Atmospheric Pollution

Following the decision of the Council in 1962 not to form Smoke Control Areas for the time being, no further action was taken regarding such areas during 1963.

Action regarding individual premises was taken by the Public Health Inspectors as required.

The question of smoke from Railway Engines in the district was the subject of complaint, and was taken up with the appropriate authorities.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspection Written notice</i>	<i>Occu- pied prose- cuted</i>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	140	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Authority	65	390	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	33	432	—
TOTAL ...	110	962	—

SECTION D.

HOUSING

Housing statistics for the year are given below; firstly showing action taken during the year with regard to existing properties; secondly figures for completion of new houses, and lastly allocation of houses.

Housing Statistics

III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

A—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

- | | | |
|--|--------|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... .. | 60 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after serving formal notices | | 5 |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners | ... | — |

B—Proceedings under section 16 and 17 of the Housing Act 1957:—

- | | | |
|---|--------|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... .. | 58 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in respect of pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | 282 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which a Closing Order was made | ... .. | 8 |

New Houses

Building of Council houses commenced in 1947 after the War,
and the following is the progress:

TABLE 8

	—													
	1947	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	Total
New Permanent Houses (including Flats) ...	891		297	274	145	218	335	90	32	38	102	265	146	2834
Temporary Houses ...	101		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101
Relets	409		56	139	118	102	84	68	104	112	70	195	205	1662
	1401		353	413	263	320	419	158	136	150	172	461	351	4597

Allocation of Houses During the Year

List						
A	Direct Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	43
B	Length of time married and living in	..	...	...	...	74
C	Dangerous property	...	...	...	...	—
	M.O.H. recommendation	...	...	...	...	18
	Homeless on Eviction	...	...	...	...	10
	Condemned property	...	...	...	...	120
	Aged persons' list	...	...	...	...	59
	Single persons' list	...	...	...	...	3
	Council resolutions	...	...	...	...	2
						<hr/> 329 <hr/>

In addition to the above there were 162 transfers and exchanges granted, involving 228 families, largely relieving overcrowding, on health grounds, economic reasons, and to place people nearer to work.

The figures showing the allocation of houses during the year have been supplied by the Housing Manager.

New Houses in the District

During the year there were 146 new Council Houses completed in the district. Of this number 60 were Aged Persons' Bungalows.

Private houses completed in the district numbered 414.

Re-housing from Condemned Property

The rate of rehousing from condemned property fell as compared with last year, but even so there were still 120 families moved from condemned houses to Council Houses. In the past ten years there has been a total of 847 families rehoused—the figures for individual years are given below:—

1954	...	...	...	12
1955	...	...	..	36
1956	...	...	...	57
1957	...	...	...	228
1958	...	...	...	95
1959	..	...	...	5
1960	...	...	...	3
1961	..	...	...	96
1962	...	...	...	195
1963	...	...	..	120

Total for 10 years	847
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Condemnation of Unfit Houses

The West Pelton Clearance Area was declared in 1962. Negotiations to purchase the area were completed during 1963. The intention is to demolish the property and build on the site.

The total number of houses condemned during the year was as under:—

West Pelton Clearance Area	...	52
Individual unfit	... ..	66
		<hr/> 118

Figures for the past ten years are given below:—

Year.	Number of individual houses condemned		
1954	17
1955	50
1956	120
1957	211
1958	30
1959	106
1960	86
1961	210
1962	63
1963	66
			<hr/> 959
		147	Clearance Areas (1959, 1962 and 1963)
			<hr/>
Total	...	1106	

Improvement Grants

The number of Standard Grants dealt with by the Public Health Inspectors and granted by the Council was 87 in 1963; for 1961 the figure was 96 and in 1962 it was 98. In the case of Discretionary Grants the figure was 67—a slight fall as compared with 1962.

Grants agreed since the scheme started as follows:—

	1956-59	1960	1961	1962	1963	Total
Discretionary Grants	...	60	9	30	71	67 ... 237
Standard Grants	...	70	113	96	98	87 ... 464
		<hr/> 130	<hr/> 122	<hr/> 126	<hr/> 169	<hr/> 154 ... 701

The 1961 Census showed that approximately 3,500 houses in the district had no fixed bath. Having regard to condemnations and the improvement grants given since April, 1961, it would appear that by the end of 1963 the number of houses without a fixed bath would be nearer 2,500.

Medical Priority Rehousing

Cases investigated claiming medical priority for rehousing numbered 56.

The results of the investigations were as follows:—

			Grounds for claiming priority T.B. Other Diseases	
Number recommended for Re-Housing to the Housing Committee	...	...	5	42
Number granted priority rehousing	...	...	5	38

Caravans

At the beginning of the year the Licence for the Bewicke Main Caravan Site was issued following a Public Enquiry held in 1962.

Subsequently application was made by the Site Operator to extend certain periods of time allocated for provision of some amenities and extensions were in certain cases agreed.

Number of licensed residential caravan sites: Five.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk

On the register at 31st December, 1963—

(a) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Dairies (not dairy farms)	2
---------------------------	-----	-----	---

The Licensing Authority for designated milk is now the County Council. Samples are taken by the County Inspectors for testing to see if the milk conforms to the necessary standard.

Ice Cream

Premises registered for Ice Cream Sale and Storage: 145.

Sampling of ice cream during the year produced the following results:—

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	61
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	1
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	—
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	—

These samples were almost all pre-wrapped ice cream, manufactured outside the district.

Food Premises

There are 296 food premises in the district, classified as under:

Number of Other Food Premises in the Area

Restaurants and Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	11
Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	...	3

Shops

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
General Dealers/Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	148
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fried Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Licensed Premises (Hotels and Bars, including Workmen's Clubs)	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
							296

Premises manufacturing Sausages, Potted Meats and Preserved Foods number 60.

The table below gives details of the animals killed in the district, and of the meat condemned as unfit for human consumption.

MEAT INSPECTION

Number of licensed slaughterhouses	...	1
Number of licensed slaughtermen	...	2

Only one slaughterhouse now operates in the district. There were 685 animals slaughtered here during the year, and all carcasses were inspected. Although the Council may now make a charge for these inspections it was decided by the Council not to do so.

TABLE 9

Carcases and Offal and condemned in whole or in part

		Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs Horses	
No. killed (if known)	...	123	46	—	365	151	—
No. inspected	...	123	46	—	365	151	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—</i>							
Whole carcasses condemned	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	..	10	9	—	—	6	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	...	8.1	19.5	—	—	3.9	—
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>							
Whole carcasses condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—

The following meat and other foods were condemned and dealt with in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Food:—

	lbs.	ozs.
Bovine liver	332	0
Bovine lung	8	0
	<u>440</u>	<u>0</u>

Total: 2 cwts. 2 qr. 4lbs.

Other foods:—

Tinned meat	506	12
Tinned vegetables	200	5
Tinned fruit	307	10
Tinned milk	34	0
Tinned soup	12	11
Tinned tomatoes	105	8
Tinned milk puddings	33	12
Tinned fish	35	4
Tinned eggs	14	0
Sausage	13	0
Jam	8	0
	<u>1,270</u>	<u>14</u>

Total: 11 cwts. 2 st. 10 lbs. 14 ozs.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifications of infectious diseases during 1963 numbered 612.

In 1962 only 100 were notified, the difference demonstrating the effect of a 'Measles Year' on the notifications.

Scarlet Fever

There were 10 cases notified, as compared with 3, 5 and 9 for the three preceding years.

Diphtheria

No cases have been notified for the eighth consecutive year. Only one case has been notified in the past ten years.

DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS, 1954-63										
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
No.of Cases	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Deaths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Immunisations against Diphtheria

Most of the children protected against diphtheria receive the combined vaccine for diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

The figures for immunisation against diphtheria during the year were as under:—

Primary injections—

0- 5 years ...	...	...	467
5-15 years ...	...	...	58

Total ...	525
-----------	-----

Boosters	234
--------------	-----	----	-----

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1963:—

Under 5 years	...	...	1,775
5-15 years	...	...	4,006
			<hr/>
	Total	...	5,781

Poliomyelitis

No cases were notified for the fifth successive year.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

Most of the vaccination against poliomyelitis is now carried out by the oral vaccine. Parents were more in favour of having their children protected when they know no 'pricks' are necessary.

The figures for the year are as follows:—

Primary:

Children under 2 years	...	78
Persons from 2-20 years	...	47
Others	...	66
		<hr/>
		191
		<hr/>

Boosters done ... 196

Measles

Being a 'Measles Year', one would expect a large number of notifications—the number in fact rose from 27 in 1962 to 478 in 1963.

NOTIFICATION OF MEASLES

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	
No. of Cases	...	108	643	41	868	10	566	31	681	27	478

Whooping Cough

There were 16 cases notified during the year.

Figures for the past 10 years are as follows:—

NOTIFICATION OF WHOOPING COUGH

		1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
No. of											
Cases	...	87	191	123	160	91	53	64	31	13	16

Whooping Cough Immunisation

The increased use of 'triple vaccine' has improved the position regarding children protected against this disease. Figures for 1963 are as under:—

Primary—			
0- 5 years	...	...	457
5-15 years	...	...	22
Total			479
<hr/>			
Boosters	..	...	131

DYSENTERY

An outbreak of sonne dysentery in a school in the Urban District of Chester-le-Street affected a considerable number of families in the Rural District.

The outbreak lasted for some time, and required considerable investigation and surveillance before it was finally cleared.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

During the year vaccination against smallpox in the district was as follows:—

Primary—			
Under 1 year	..	...	105
1-15 years	...	...	298
Total			403
<hr/>			
Re-vaccinations	...	...	173

TYPHOID FEVER.—South Shields

An outbreak of Typhoid Fever in South Shields occurred during the summer months causing the various Authorities in County Durham to check on their hygiene standards. Whilst no cases occurred in Chester-le-Street Rural District it was necessary to investigate contacts and keep a watchful eye on the position in order to minimise the possibilities of any spread of the disease

TUBERCULOSIS (Primary)

There were three deaths from tuberculosis in 1963 as compared with two in 1962.

New notifications numbered 13—9 males and 4 females. Of the males, 5 were over 45 years of age, and all the females were below this age.

Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)

NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS DUE TO PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS										
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
No. of										
Cases ...	49	30	23	24	41	22	26	10	25	13
Deaths ...	6	7	5	6	5	5	3	3	2	3

CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT
B.C.G. Vaccination

B.C.G.

Given below are the figures for the last scheme carried out in the district.

Schoolchildren

This has now been carried out in Birtley since 1955—the ninth year. In the rest of the district 1963 was the eighth year.

School	Results of Tuberculin Test			Number Vaccinated
	Positive	Negative	% Positive	
Birtley George St.	6	48	11	42
Birtley R.C.	4	48	8	48
Birtley East Mod.	26	118	18	113
Felton Mod.	15	79	16	74
Pelton Roseberry	12	85	12	78
Sacriston Sec. Mod.	16	59	22	56
Fatfield Mod.	—	27	—	25
Fence Houses Mod.	15	127	11	120
Birtley South Mod.	20	159	11	147
TOTALS	114	750	13	703

Mass X-Ray

The figures below show the results of the visits made by the Mass Radiography Unit to the district during 1963.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION

	Male	Female	Total
No. X-rayed—miniature films ..	934	339	1273
No. recalled to Chest Clinic ...	32	10	42
Abnormalities Revealed—			
Tuberculosis	3	—	3
Other conditions	36	6	42

TABLE 10.

Age at Death.	1963	%
Under 1 year	17	3.4
1-4 years	2	0.4
5-14 years	2	0.4
15-24 years	3	0.5
25-34 years	1	0.2
35-44 years	16	3.2
45-54 years	43	8.5
55-64 years	98	19.5
65-74 years	137	27.4
75 and upwards	183	36.5
Total ..		100.0%

TABLE 11

STATISTICS OF THE 15 PARISHES FORMING THE
CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT.

	Pop. 1961 Census	Acreage (acres)	Total No. of Inhabited Houses	No. of Council Houses	Deaths
Biddick South	29	348	10	...	...
Birtley	10880	1429	3721	1991	150
Bournmoor	1818	513	750	224	18
Edmondsley	1239	2099	402	230	16
Harraton	3565	2669	1247	377	39
Lambton	75	697	28	...	10
Lamesley	4205	5679	1317	603	42
Lumley Great	2426	1642	809	507	27
Lumley Little	1183	875	376	10	15
Ouston	1181	641	628	271	12
Pelton	5880	926	1920	786	85
Plawsworth	1570	1248	451	248	7
Sacriston	4871	910	1546	565	58
Urpeth	1694	1825	558	105	12
Waldridge	552	725	173	...	11
	41169	22226	13936	5917	502

TABLE 12.
Infectious Disease Notifications since 1954.

DISEASE	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Food Poisoning	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	2	3	2
Smallpox
Scarlet Fever	...	32	29	24	57	15	9	5	3	10
Diphtheria	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...
Meningococcal Infection	...	2	1	2	3	1	4	1	1	...
Polio	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Polio
Encephalitis Lethargica
Pneumonia	...	48	24	66	39	34	35	32	15	36
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	2	1	2	1	3	2	1	...	2
Erysipelas	1	2	2	1	...	...	1	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Dysentery	...	18	8	19	12	6	...	2	6	38
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	...	30	23	24	41	22	26	10	25	38
" Non-pulmonary	...	2	5	5	3	2	5	2	1	3
Measles	...	643	41	868	10	566	31	681	27	478
Whooping Cough	...	191	123	160	91	53	64	31	13	16
Malaria	...	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
†Diagnosis not confirmed	...	9	10	10	17	6	3	5	5	11

† Due to Quarterly Infectious Return

TABLE 13.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1963

40

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	AT AGES—YEARS												TOWNSHIPS																Total No. Notified Removed to Hospital								
	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 to 74	75 and Up.	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Biddick South	Birtley	Bournmoor	Edmondsley	Harraton	Lambton	Lamesley	Lumley Great		Lumley Little	Outon	Pelton	Plawsworth	Sacriston	Urpeth	Wardidge	
Diphtheria ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ..	...	9	14	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ..	...	2	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary ..	...	...	1	2	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary ..	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ..	21	262	194	...	...	...	...	...	15	13	87	112	113	86	39	9	1	3	...	...	...	94	33	5	19	1	26	32	3	39	118	5	60	27	16	478	1
Whooping Cough ..	3	7	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ..	1	8	14	2	12	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	3	2	1	2	...	...	...	2	3	...	13	...	...	5	2	...	7	2	4	...	...	...	...
Diarr. not Confirmed ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	36	296	227	7	24	16	4	3	20	21	102	116	128	121	51	19	11	10	8	51	...	16	39	8	36	3	31	43	9	40	138	11	93	28	17	612	60

TABLE 14.

CANCER DEATHS 1963 (AGE GROUPS AND SITES)

AGE GROUP	Buccal Cavity (A44)		Stomach (A46)		Intestines except Rectum (A47)		Rectum (A48)		Trachea Lungs ETL (A50)		Breast (A51)		Uterus (A52 & 53)		Prostate (A54)		All others		Leukaemia	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	F.	F.	F.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 yr.
1-4	1	1
5-14
15-24
25-34
35-44
45-54
55-64
65-74
75 & up	2	1	3	2	1	3	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	3	6	1	1	4	...	...
TOTAL...	4	1	7	8	3	6	1	2	15	5	7	7	10	9	11	1	2			

N.B. Group Nos. refer to Intermediate List of 150 causes (International Classification)

TABLE 15

The following table gives the vital statistics of the district for 1963 and previous years:

Year	Estimated Resident Population Mid-Year	Births		Deaths		Infant Mortality Rate †	Maternal Mortality Rate ‡
		No.	Crude Rate*	No.	Crude Rate*		
1954	41,110	658	16.0	458	11.1	35	0.00
1955	41,160	613	14.9	431	10.5	51	0.00
1956	41,160	629	15.8	485	11.8	28	4.50
1957	41,120	661	16.1	467	11.4	38	1.46
1958	41,240	631	15.3	480	11.6	33	0.00
1959	41,550	666	16.0	444	10.7	38	0.00
1960	41,890	676	16.1	448	10.7	22	0.00
1961	41,240	687	16.6	453	10.9	23	0.00
1962	41,980	763	18.1	450	10.7	21	0.00
1963	43,090	751	17.1	502	11.7	23	0.00

* Per 1,000 population. (total)

† Per 1,000 live births. (registered.)

‡ Per 1,000 (live and still) births (registered.)

Table Showing changes in Certain Vital Statistics over a period

TABLE 16.

	1896	1921	1963
Population	58,000	71,580	43,090
Births	2,157	2,298	751
Crude Birth Rate	38.09	31.82	17.1
Deaths	1,083	851	502
Crude Death Rate	19.00	13.03	11.7
Infant Deaths	394	270	17
Infant Mortality Rate	182	117	23
Deaths from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases	212	126	—
Scarlet Fever Cases	553	378	10
Typhoid Fever Cases	108	6	—
Diphtheria Cases	57	130	—

TABLE 17

New cases and mortality from Tuberculosis during 1963:—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 ...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...
1-4 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5-14 ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
15-24 ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
25-34 ...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35-44 ...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
45-54 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55-64 ...	4	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
65-74 ...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
75 & over ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	9	4	2	1	3	...	...	...

TABLE 18

Notifications and deaths occurring in the Rural District during the past five years:

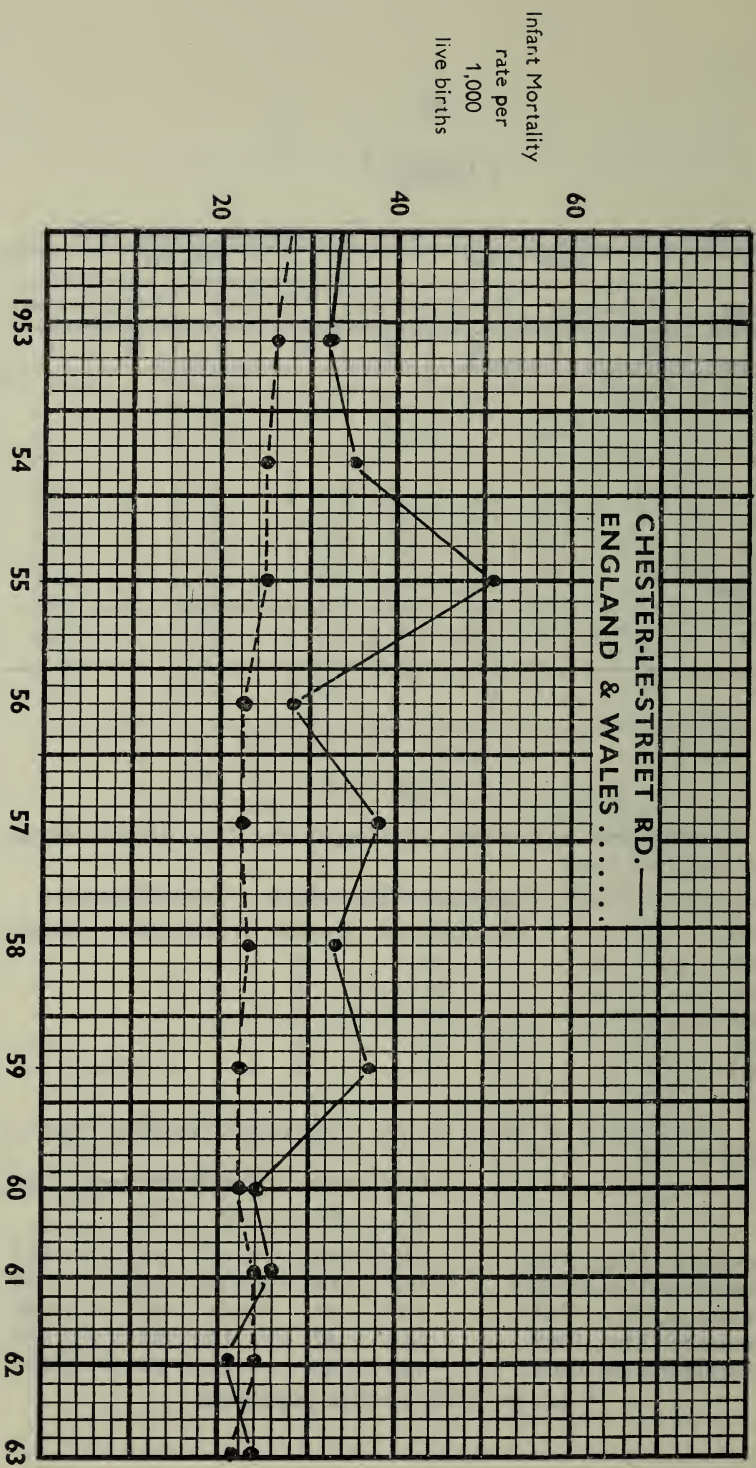
Year	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.		Non-Pulmonary	
	Notifications	Deaths	Notifications	Deaths
1959	22	5	1
1960	26	3	5
1961	10	3	2
1962	25	2	1
1963	13	3	3

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register were as follows:

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
December 31st, 1959 ...	172	136	17	36	361
December 31st, 1960 ...	167	149	19	39	374
December 31st, 1961 ...	102	84	16	24	226
December 31st, 1962 ...	114	87	15	22	238
December 31st, 1963 ...	123	89	17	24	253

* 5.5 per 1,000 civilian population.

INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1953-1963



PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE—1953-1963

